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LETTER DATED 31 MAY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement which the Togolese Government has deemed it necessary to issue in order to respond to the allegations made in the note from the Ghanaian Government of 25 May 1994 (S/1994/622).

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Biova-Soumi PENNANEACH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement by the Togolese Government on the relations between Togo and Ghana

On 1 May 1994, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Togolese Republic, assisted by a colleague, received at his Ministry at Lomé the Chargé d'affaires of Ghana in Togo.

The Minister informed the Chargé d'affaires that the Togolese Government was in possession of information that a certain Logo Dossouvi, a voluntary Togolese refugee living in Ghana, was making preparations, using Togolese youths, to carry out bomb attacks with grenades and bombs in bars, restaurants and nightclubs generally frequented by Europeans.

The Chargé d'affaires was requested to pass on that information to the competent Ghanaian authorities so that they could take measures to prevent Mr. Logo Dossouvi from carrying out such actions.

On 3 May 1994, an explosion occurred at Lomé in the "Le Relaxe" restaurant, injuring six people, of whom five were French and one was Beninese.

Following that bomb attack, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Togo again received the Chargé d'affaires of Ghana to inform him of that incident and lodge a protest about the fact that Togolese political refugees are freely engaging in Ghanaian territory in acts which are not likely to lead to an improvement of relations between the two countries.

This information was communicated to the Ghanaian authorities so as to meet the wish of the Ghanaian and Togolese heads of State to protect the two fraternal countries from acts of destabilization through an exchange of information.

The Togolese Government categorically denies the allegation made in the statement by the Ghanaian Government (S/1994/622) that the Togolese Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation "threatened the anger of France and other foreign Governments against Ghana".

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Togo could not have known the official position of France so as to be able to report on it to the Chargé d'affaires of Ghana since the latter was received some time before the Chargé d'affaires of France.

The Togolese Government also denies the other allegation that the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Togo said that it was by systematically outwitting the security forces of both Ghana and Togo that the bombs had been smuggled into Togo; that statement was actually made by the Chargé d'affaires of Ghana.

As to the judgement made about Togo in the statement by the Government of Ghana, regarding Togo's alleged "failure to embrace the democratic culture in

all its ramifications", Togo wishes to note that if it needed lessons in democracy, it would definitely not seek them from Ghana.

The Togolese Government wishes to stress that the Ghanaian authorities have never been able to deny that Mr. Logo Dossouvi is living in Ghanaian territory and that his activities are incompatible with his status as refugee.

The Togolese Government reaffirms its constant desire to maintain harmonious relations of cooperation and fraternity with Ghana.